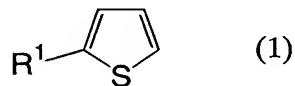
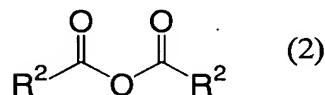


ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a process for producing a 2-acylthiophene compound which has a low content of the 3-isomer generated as a by-product, the process comprising reacting 5 a thiophene compound represented by formula (1):



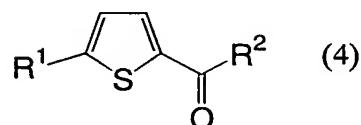
wherein R¹ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a phenyl group, or a halogen atom, with at least one member selected from the 10 group consisting of acid anhydrides represented by formula (2):



wherein R² is a C₁₋₆ alkyl group or a phenyl group, and acid halides represented by formula (3):



15 wherein R² is as defined above and X is a halogen atom, in the presence of a solid acid catalyst at a temperature less than 75°C in the absence of solvent, thus producing a 2-acylthiophene compound represented by formula (4):



20 wherein R¹ and R² are as defined above.